

**Before the
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20554**

In the Matter of)	
)	
Annual Assessment of the Status of)	MB Docket No. 12-203
Competition in the Market for the)	
Delivery of Video Programming)	

**COMMENTS OF
VILLAGE OF ELK GROVE VILLAGE, ILLINOIS**

The Village of Elk Grove Village, Illinois submits these comments in response to the above-captioned Notice of Inquiry (“NOI”), released July 20, 2012, seeking “data, information, and comment on the state of competition in the delivery of video programming.”

We are concerned about the preservation of PEG Access as a needed community resource. In these comments we specifically address the role of PEG channels in our community, and the importance of preventing companies from inhibiting access to these channels.

The Village of Elk Grove Village offers government and community service programming on its local PEG channel to residents of Elk Grove Village. That programming is of unique local interest and needs to be readily accessible to viewers, not placed in a format, which is inferior or less accessible than other channels.

The Village has two (2) MVPD providers: Comcast Xfinity and AT&T U-Verse. Comcast provides PEG channels on all tiers of services and provides EGTv (government access) on Channel 6, Harper College (educational access) on Channel 18, Comcast Public Access (public

access) on Channel 19 and Cook County Government (government access) on Channel 900.

AT&T U-Verse provides access to these PEG channels on all tiers on Channel 99, forcing viewers to wade through menus in order to view them in violation of Illinois State Statutes. Our experience of AT&T's PEG product confirms many of the deficiencies identified in ACM *et al*, CSR-2186. As detailed in that Petition, AT&T's PEG product is inferior to broadcast channels carried on AT&T's U-verse system in virtually every way that matters to a viewer. If channels are made less accessible, and are deprived of basic functions viewers have come to expect, many subscribers we now reach will not receive valuable information. It's unacceptable with the technological advances of the 21st Century that local residents would be deprived of easy access to information about the education of our children, dissemination of health information, facilitation of job placement, and emergency alerts.

Currently, AT&T does provide service to Elk Grove Village residents and has done so since mid-2008, however our government access channel EGTv is currently not being shown on the system. Village staff has witnessed first hand the system AT&T is using to deliver PEG channels and finds that it requires viewers to wade through numerous menus to get to the channel they want, presented at sub-par quality in relation to other channels on the system and does not allow time-shifting using a DVR or VCR.

EGTV's responsibilities within the Village include the creation, production, post-production, promotion and scheduling of programming highlighting Village policies, procedures and events including live coverage of Village Board Meetings, Park Board Meetings and other live programming, and the creation and scheduling of Village and community messages on the channel's Announcements Board, which is shown when programming is not being cablecast.

PEG channels are a critical and irreplaceable resource for our community. If the Commission fails to prevent the industry practices at issue in the above mentioned petitions, we have little doubt that other operators might also adopt approaches that marginalize or effectively eliminate PEG access. Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Ross Rowe
EGTV Channel 6
901 Wellington Avenue
Elk Grove Village, IL 60007
(847) 357-4270
<http://www.eg-tv.org>